

# 5th District Questionnaire

## Jobs & The Economy

- Over the last 3 years the Washington state economy has lost over 100,000 jobs. How has our state's economic recession negatively impacted your family's income over that time?

☐ A lot    ☐ Somewhat    ☐ Not really    ☐ Not at all

- Are you worried that your current employment is at risk due to our state's economic recession?

☐ Yes    ☐ Maybe    ☐ No

- The Boeing Company is seeking to move manufacturing jobs out of Washington due to our state's uncompetitive business climate. Last session the Legislature, on a bipartisan basis, authorized \$3.2 billion dollars in tax credits over 20 years as an incentive for the Boeing Company to keep jobs here in Washington. Should the Legislature be prepared to offer additional tax and regulatory incentives to keep Boeing jobs here?

☐ Yes, we need to make every effort to keep Boeing here.  
☐ No, we have offered them enough.

- In 2004 \$57.5 million in high tech research and development tax credits, supporting thousands of jobs, will expire. Should the Legislature renew the high tech R&D tax credits?

☐ Yes, tax incentives will help retain high paying high-tech jobs.  
☐ No, we need the tax revenue to support important programs.  
☐ Don't know

- Numerous small businesses have been forced to close or have become unprofitable due to the high cost of complying with government regulations pertaining to labor, environmental and health care requirements. Should small businesses be allowed a tax credit for the cost of complying with state government regulatory requirements?

☐ Yes, small businesses cannot absorb regulatory costs the same as big business.  
☐ No, all employers should be required to absorb regulatory costs regardless of size.  
☐ Don't know

- Currently, port districts have the authority to impose property tax increases without a vote of the people to support economic development. Should port districts be required to return a portion of their profits each year back to property taxpayers as a dividend for that investment?

☐ Yes, property taxpayers should receive a port district dividend  
☐ No, monies should be retained by the ports for further investment.  
☐ Don't know



## Transportation

- In November of 2004 it is expected that the new Regional Transportation Investment District (RTID) comprised of King, Pierce and Snohomish counties will offer a \$10 billion tax package to the public to fund targeted transportation infrastructure projects in Puget Sound. Will you be more or less likely to support such a tax package if a portion of the new tax package is earmarked for Sound Transit light rail?

☐ More likely    ☐ Less Likely    ☐ Don't know



## Health Care

- Washington's doctors say escalating premiums for medical malpractice insurance are responsible for increased health care costs and limited access to services. Would you support a cap on jury awards for medical malpractice lawsuits in order to reduce legal costs that may be limiting access to affordable health care?

☐ Yes, unlimited jury awards are driving up the cost of care for health care consumers.  
☐ No, jury awards should not be capped, even if it means higher costs for all.



## State Government

For the last 4 years our state has had to make budget corrections to make up for reoccurring budget deficits. In 2001-02 the budget deficit was \$1.5 billion. In 2003-04 the budget deficit was \$2.7 billion. In 2005-06 the anticipated state budget deficit is \$1.5 billion.

- To balance the state budget and keep it solvent, which approach should the Legislature take?

- ☐ Raise taxes and increase spending
- ☐ Raise taxes and limit spending to current levels
- ☐ Raise taxes and cut spending on government programs
- ☐ No new taxes and cut spending, while refocusing funds to high priority programs

- Please rank the importance of the following major categories of state spending (1 being highest - 7 being lowest).

Jobs Creation \_\_\_\_\_

Education \_\_\_\_\_

Health Care \_\_\_\_\_

Social Services \_\_\_\_\_

Criminal Justice \_\_\_\_\_

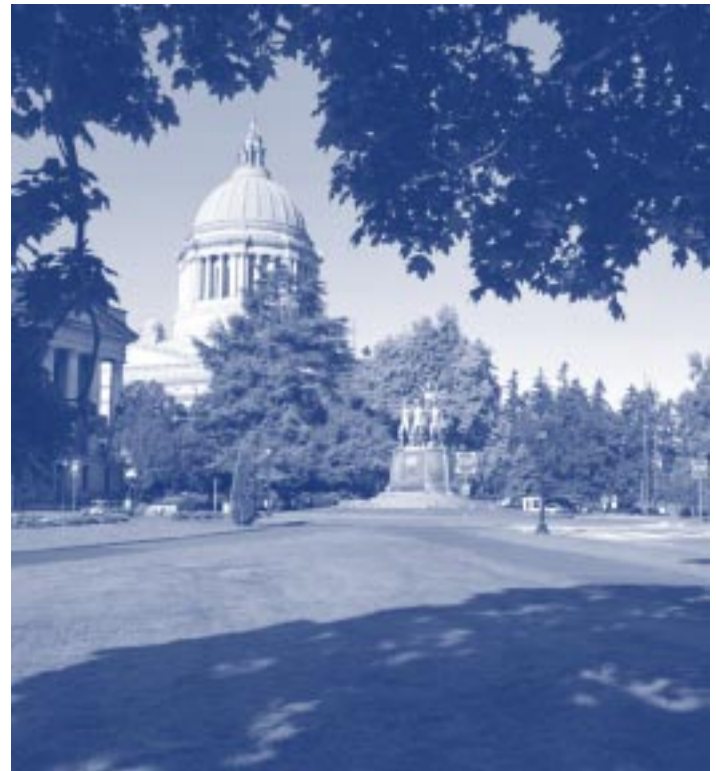
Transportation \_\_\_\_\_

Environmental \_\_\_\_\_

Protection \_\_\_\_\_

- Our governor has opposed giving the state auditor authority to conduct performance audits of state agencies to evaluate the effectiveness or appropriateness of government spending. Do you support giving the state auditor the authority to conduct performance audits?

- ☐ Yes, all government agencies should be accountable for the money they spend.
- ☐ No, money spent on performance audits would be better used delivering services.
- ☐ Don't know



- In 1988 the Legislature passed the Administrative Procedures Act which changed the burden of proof when challenging agency rules from the government agency to individual citizens and employers who are posing the challenge. This change made citizens financially and legally liable to prove the government wrong when appealing state agency rules. Do you feel this law should be repealed?

- ☐ Yes, the burden should be on the government, and it should be required to prove its case.
- ☐ No, government needs the authority to insure compliance with agency rules.
- ☐ Don't know

- Excessive spending during good economic times has drained state reserves, which act as a "shock absorber" during economic recessions and limit the need for tax increases or spending cuts. Should the Legislature re-establish a Rainy Day fund with protections against inflated spending?

- ☐ Yes, it is a good idea to protect against downswings in the state's economy.
- ☐ No, government should spend all of what it receives to expand or create new services.
- ☐ No, taxes should be lowered if the state spends less than it receives.
- ☐ Don't know



# 5th District Questionnaire

## Education

- The average annual salary of a mid-career teacher in Washington is \$45,000. Here in our 5th Legislative District the average annual per capita income is \$33,000. In your opinion are teachers paid:

- ☐ Too little
- ☐ Too much
- ☐ Just about right

- It has been suggested that school districts be allowed to give parent organizations (such as the PTA) the authority to award performance pay increases to teachers that demonstrate exceptional student and professional achievement. Would you support a parent-administered performance-pay plan for teachers?

- ☐ Yes, parents should have a say in rewarding teachers performance.
- ☐ No, only teachers and school boards should negotiate teacher performance pay.
- ☐ Don't know

- Since 1992 our state has developed a comprehensive academic testing program known as the WASL (Washington Assessment of Student Learning). Do you believe that these testing standards to encourage student achievement are:

- ☐ Too strong
- ☐ Not strong enough
- ☐ Just right
- ☐ Don't know

- Which statement do you agree with more?

- ☐ K-12 education should be equally funded for every child in the Washington and the state should support such an approach.
- ☐ Each school district, regardless of wealth, should be allowed to raise as much local money as they can without limits to educate their children.

- School property tax levies require a 60 percent approval by voters to pass. Should the 60 percent vote requirement be lowered?

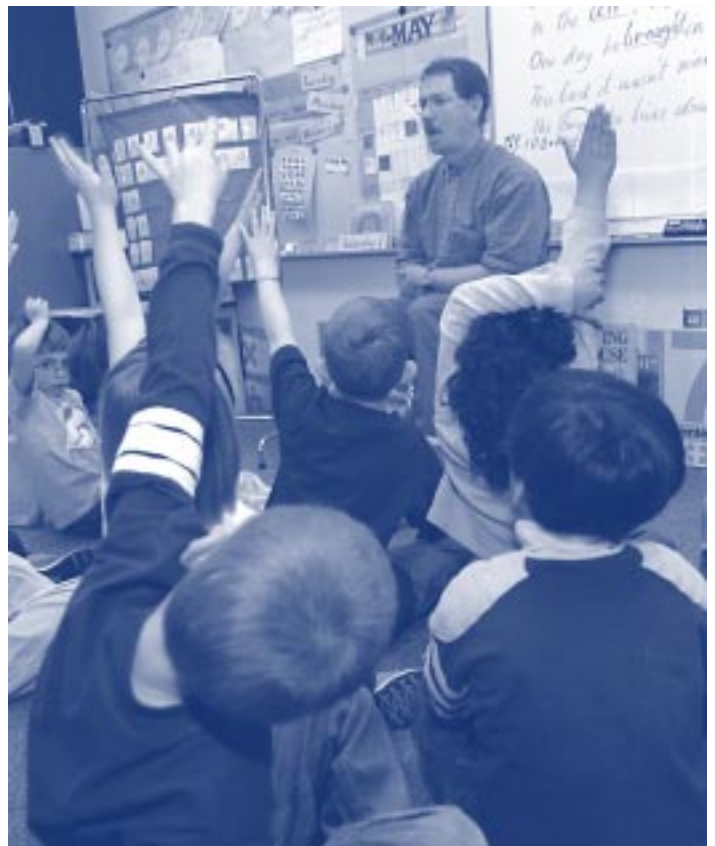
- ☐ Yes, the 60 percent requirement is too much of a burden on school districts.
- ☐ No, the 60 percent supermajority helps protect property owners.

- Many believe that we must spend more for K-12 and higher education to prepare our children for the future. Which TWO of the following would you support to increase funding for education around our state?

- ☐ Increase state taxes
- ☐ Increase local taxes
- ☐ Grow the state's economy and not raise taxes
- ☐ Prioritize current spending
- ☐ Current spending is enough
- ☐ Don't know

- Recent teachers strikes in Issaquah and Marysville have shown how disruptive and divisive labor unrest can be to communities. Which of the following options would you support?

- ☐ State law should be amended to declare teachers "essential employees" (such as fire and police employees), and prohibited from striking.
- ☐ Collective bargaining sessions should be open to the public so parents and taxpayers can have a better understanding of the bargaining positions and can be more involved in bringing about a timely resolution.
- ☐ The collective bargaining process should be left as is.



## 5th District Questionnaire



# What's most important to your family?

November 2003

Dear friends and neighbors,

It is your voice I represent in Olympia. As your state representative, it is my commitment to bring lawmakers together to engage in genuine problem-solving to deliver results. This survey is your opportunity to prioritize the issues that are most important to you and your family for making Washington a better place to live and work.

Please take the time to complete the enclosed survey and return it to the address below. Thank you in advance for your input. I hope to hear from you soon and in the months ahead. I look forward to hearing from you.

Sincerely,

Rep. Glenn Anderson

### INSTRUCTIONS:

Please complete the enclosed survey and return before the end of the year by mail to:

**Rep. Glenn Anderson**  
**417 John L. O'Brien Building**  
**P.O. Box 40600**  
**Olympia, WA 98504-0600**

(To help us tabulate responses, please include your zip code: \_\_\_\_\_)

### **GLENN ANDERSON** State Representative

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